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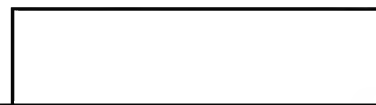
NSC BRIEFING

5 December 1958

HUMPHREY-KHRUSHCHEV TALKS (1 December 1958)

I. On weapons development

A. K said Soviets had exploded 5 MT bomb.



B. Insisted USSR had too many bombs, would stop production fissionable materials for weapons and dismantle some bombs. (Note: We think this highly unlikely.)

C. K said Soviets had rocket of 7,500 nautical mile range, but no place to test it. (Note: We think this ^{probably} could be true.)

D. He again challenged US to rocket competition.

II. On Berlin

A. K stressed determination to turn control of access over to East Germans if West rejects "free city" proposal.

1. Said several times "Don't threaten me."

2. Also "Some of your military men have made stupid statements lately--statements to effect that US will break through with tanks if East German republic tries to get in the way. Soviets have tanks too, lots of them, and I warn you we will use them. We have rockets, too, and we don't even have to fire them from East Germany."

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B. However, he stated readiness consider Western counter-proposals.

1. Said if Berlin question settled, East-West relations would improve. Berlin is "a bone in my throat."
2. Also "We are not suggesting anything offensive to US. You constantly talk of assuring freedom of two million Berliners. This is mere pretense for you to keep your troops there. I warn you this is very serious. Give us a counter-proposal."
3. "But if you try to talk about German reunification the answer is no. There are two German states and they will have to settle reunification by themselves."

C. Berlin itself meant nothing to Khrushchev when Bloc had 900,000,000 people already.

III. On Geneva negotiations

- A. Khrushchev ridiculed US proposal for one-year suspension.
1. Said "Who are you trying to fool? You know it takes almost one year to set up a new series of tests, so your proposal is no proposal at all."
- B. K agreed to have test cessation and control provisions spelled out in one document, gave Humphrey impression that Soviets genuinely seeking agreement on tests.
- C. Humphrey does not believe Sovs expect agreement on surprise attack.

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IV. K strongly disparaged Chinese communes.

- A. Said they were not really communes, but system for using mass labor in agriculture--USSR tried this once (Note: 1919) and found it would not work.**
- B. USSR had set aside goal of "to each according to his needs" because it found incentives necessary.**
- C. However, said Chinese doing very well and he expected no trouble from them.**

V. Re June 57 purge, K said Presidium voted 7-4 against him, but he called Central Committee and won out. (Note: [redacted])

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[redacted] We think vote was Malenkov, Molotov, Kaganovien, Bulganin, Pervukhin, Saburov and probably Voroshilov against; Khrushchev, Kirichenko, Mikoyan and probably Suslov for.)

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